

Remarks

The Office Action of January 8, 2010, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that Claims 37, 39 – 44, 63, and 70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Bachrach in view of the patent to Jackson.

Claims 37 – 39, 45, 46, 49 – 51, and 66 – 69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP 50060808 in view of Jackson.

Claims 47 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP 50060808.

Claims 54 – 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP 50060808 in view of Jackson, and further in view of the patent to Henriksen.

Claims 64 and 65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP 50060808 in view of Jackson, and further in view of the patent to Mosley.

Claims 71 and 72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over JP 50060808 in view of Jackson, and Henriksen, and further in view of the patent to Berry.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has cancelled Claims 71 and 72, amended Claim 37, and added new Claims 73 and 74.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly-advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, and particularly to the patent to Bachrach, it can be seen that this patent discloses an oscillating pump having an inlet valve formed in the outer wall of the housing. Bachrach does not disclose a pump having an inlet valve formed in a housing dividing wall, nor does Bachrach disclose a pump piston and/or a pump housing coated with a flocking in the surface area of an associated movement gap, as in the presently-claimed invention.

Now to Jackson, discloses an oscillating pressure blower. The Examiner combined Jackson with Bachrach in determining that Claims 37, 39 – 44, 63, and 70 would be unpatentable over such

combination. Applicant submits that a combination of these references does not teach the invention recited in independent Claim 37 now on file. There is no teaching by a combination of the references of a pump piston and/or a pump housing coated with a flocking in the surface area of an associated movement gap, as in the presently-claimed invention.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 37, 39 – 44, 63, and 70, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

JP 50060808 discloses a pump having an outlet valve formed in the outer wall of the housing.

The Examiner combined Jackson with JP 50060808 in determining that Claims 37 – 39, 45, 46, 49 – 51, and 66 – 69 would be unpatentable over such a combination. Applicant submits that a combination of these references does not teach the invention presently recited in independent Claim 37. Specifically, the combination does not teach a pump piston and/or a pump housing coated with a flocking in the surface area of an associated movement gap, as in the presently-claimed invention.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 37 – 39, 45, 46, 49 – 51, and 66 – 69, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Turning to the rejection of Claims 47 and 48 over JP 50060808, these claims share the features of independent Claim 37 discussed above. Thus, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Henriksen discloses a valve arrangement for a pump or compressor. The Examiner combined this reference with JP 50060808 and Jackson in determining that Claims 54 – 62 would be unpatentable over such combination. Applicant submits that Henriksen adds nothing to the teachings of the primary references so as to suggest the invention recited in independent

Claim 37, as previously discussed. Therefore, it is submitted that the rejection of Claims 54 – 62 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Mosley has also been considered. The Examiner combined Mosely with JP 50060808 and Jackson in determining that Claims 64 and 65 would be unpatentable over such combination. Applicant submits that Mosely adds nothing to the teachings of JP 50060808 and Jackson so as to suggest a pump piston and/or a pump housing coated with a flocking as recited in amended independent Claim 37. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 64 and 65 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Berry discloses a rotary air pump with a rotating and oscillating center piston. The Examiner combined this reference with Henriksen and Jackson and JP 50060808 in determining that Claims 71 and 72 would be unpatentable over such combination. Applicant submits that a combination of these references does not teach the invention as recited in Claim 37 presently on file. The Examiner specifically refers to column 4, line 68 - column 5, line 4, of Berry, as teaching a coating to prevent metal-to-metal contact. Berry, however, only refers to an abraidable coating of dry film lubricants, which are crushed during assembly. The only purpose of this lubrication is to prevent metal-to-metal contact during assembly. The flocking of the presently-claimed invention, on the other hand, provides an advantageous lubricant effect (see page 10, lines 9 – 19 of the specification of the present application). This coating is not completely removed or crushed during assembly, but instead provides an advantage during the entire life of the engine. It is essentially a self-regulating sealing that starts with the first regular movement of the parts relative to each other. Applicant submits that a combination of the references relied upon by the Examiner does not teach such a flocked coating.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of Claims 71 and 72, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) do not apply to amended independent Claim 37, and should be withdrawn.

As for new independent Claim 73, applicant submits that none of the references taken either alone or in combination teach a pump having an inlet valve and an outlet valve arranged in an exchangeable strip as recited in Claim 73. Thus, it is submitted that Claim 73 is also in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.


Fees

No fees are believed to be due. However, if any fee is determined to be due, authorization is hereby given to charge the fee to deposit account #02-2275. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), please treat this and any concurrent or future reply in this application that requires a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The fee associated therewith is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

By:

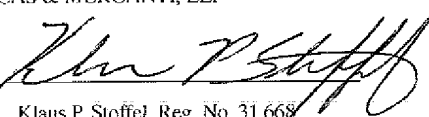

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